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**STATEMENT FROM MISSISSIPPI CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZER BOARD CHAIR
TOMMIE CARDIN REGARDING 2015 – 2016 MAP SCORES**

Jackson, MS. – Today, the Mississippi Department of Education released MAP proficiency scores, which are the first piece of school performance data from the 2015 – 2016 school year. Mississippi charter school performance was included in this release. The Authorizer Board recognizes that students transitioned to a new assessment and this was the first year for both charter schools; however, the MAP proficiency scores do not currently meet the Authorizer Board's expectations for student proficiency.

Making judgments on charter school performance at this time would be premature in the process and unfair to schools, students, and their parents. The proficiency scores released today are the first data point out of many the Authorizer Board will consider when assessing charter school performance. To understand the full picture at both schools, the Authorizer Board needs growth data as well as comparison data that show the performance of similar students that remained in traditional public schools. The Authorizer Board will assess charter schools on the following: (1) components of the state accountability system; (2) proficiency and growth levels of specific subgroups of students; and (3) performance on school - selected indicators related to the mission of their schools. The Authorizer Board will publish annual evaluations of charter schools in the fall after all data are available.

The Authorizer Board uses the [Mississippi Charter School Performance Framework](#), which includes Academic, Financial, and Organizational Performance Frameworks and an ongoing monitoring process, to annually measure the performance of charter schools during the five-year term of their initial contract. The Authorizer Board recently modified its ongoing monitoring process in order to provide more intensive monitoring at the beginning of each charter school's contract term. Charter schools will be granted greater autonomy as they increase their performance. If issues arise, the Authorizer Board will follow its intervention ladder process detailed in the Charter School Performance Framework.

The Authorizer Board expects schools to continuously improve over time by adapting and adjusting in order to improve their performance. Charter schools must meet the Authorizer Board's expectations outlined in the Mississippi Charter School Performance Framework in order for their contracts to be renewed.

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